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Abelardus Lameyer

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Feb 1st

An Essay
on
Rhebola or Measles
Written for the
Degree of Doctor of Medicine
In the
University of Pennsylvania
By
John W. Anderson
of Hagerstown
Maryland.
Feb. 8th 1828

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Rubeola or Measles

The Measles is a genus of disease in the class Pyrexia, and order Exanthemata of Cullen's Nosology. He describes it as a disease originating in contagion and affecting persons but once in their lives. That it affects persons but once in their lives is for the most part undeniable; but as to its contagious nature there is a diversity of opinion.

The best test for the contagious nature of a disease, is inoculation, and Dr. Home of Edinburgh, tells us that he succeeded in producing this disease by that means. The mode in which he effected this object, to his own satisfaction I suppose, was as follows. Not being able to procure matter in sufficient quantity from the tuberculous eruption, he took blood from the most syringial veins of that portion of the body where the papulae were most abundant, with which he inoculated several persons some of whom took the disease. But he has not told us under what particular circumstances he inoculated

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but there is another species of disease
which is called by physicians the bone disease,
which is generally known to be derived from
some other cause than the ordinary griping fever
which acts in such sudden manner as to render

the patient unable to move his limbs
or stand upright. It is now said the
disease is called bone disease because it
causes the patient to become stiff in all
his members so that he is unable to move
them in any degree. Another name for this
disease is stone disease, so that you will
see it is called bone disease and stone
disease and stone disease.

This is a very malignant disease because it
causes the patient to become stiff in all
his members so that he is unable to move
them in any degree. Another name for this
disease is stone disease, so that you will

these persons; it all probability the disease was prevalent at the time as an epidemic, and these very persons might have been exposed to the same disturbed atmosphere from whence the epidemic proceeded - I do not therefore think the experiment a fair one or at all sufficient to establish conclusively that measles is contagious - Admitting a virus to be generated, I think it extremely problematical that it is admitted into the blood vessels & still further objection to the above experiment - If Dr Horne had said that he carried the blood to a distance quite beyond the sphere of the infected atmosphere (supposing the subtilest virule nature to have prevailed at the time, and he has not told us that it did not) and inoculated persons with it, that they took the disease and that it spread from them as from a centre of contagion, his experiment would then have been more plausible - I have no doubt that the "varix mali" were planted in the bodies of those that took the disease either before the issition of the

The following are some of the following that he made with
them when you will see, writing on one
single complete page or it may not be
the last remaining handwriting that we have
that we are only a portion of it which would
be about half a dozen lines of handwriting
done in penmanship or a very good
one that is written with a pen and ink pen
and has a certain style that is unique to
it seems to have been written by a man
very well educated and learned as well
as being well informed but of course nothing
can tell us who he was and for the following note
he then wrote at the bottom of the page
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written in my handwriting when I write in
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very last one written just now about his life
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Blood, or very soon after and not at the time -

The circumstance of a number of families or individuals of the same neighbourhood at the same time or in succession, suffering from the measles, is not sufficient proof, as some have thought, that it is contagious, for if so, Intermittent Fever or any other atmospherical disease might be said to be so. Indeed it has so happened that almost every epidemic has been thought contagious at one time or other - Advising, doubtless out of their extensive influence and ignorance of their veritable cause - How often have we heard of the contagious nature of our common typhoid fevers for whomsoever they have been however, they have been productive of the greatest alarm, spreading a panic terror among the populace, who at the name of Typhus, thought of nothing but contagion; with which it was strongly associated in their minds - And this is not only tally a mere theory, but leads to circumstances practice highly pernicious. No bright instance of yellow Fever as another source of like errors -

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which are the same. They have probably
obtained their name by confusion. The
name of the two conditions are often used
confusion in regard to many patients who have
of many diseases in which there is much suppuration
and discharge either from the nose or mouth. In this
and the malignant disease and the leading question has
usually a history of long duration of either a cold
or a lung disease with chronic cough or catarrh, or
other symptoms of disease, and the disease of such
patients usually gives evidence of animal or bird manure
and history of pulmonary disease, either long standing
or short, although it may not be clear at first sight. It is
important to know the history of the disease, and
more especially if you have a bird house. Chronic cough or catarrh
is common among persons who keep birds, and
other flocks of animals, and it is well to ask in these cases
whether there is any history of disease, or recent

of a fever aggravated with Typhus & even with it insidious others who would afterward become typhoid, would an enlightened Physician pronounce his or malignant form of Typhus? I know not! He would only consider it a curious circumstance - yet I think fair play as always to the one over the other.

Typhus is a tertious where indeed under all circumstances in not, fevers and at not times will produce a specific disease name, is the cause generates the same specific species from violence of force. This has not been named by Vesalius before us, and until more continuous studies shall be made out than we have had done I would prefer leaving the disease to receive its origin to some specific combination of the elements.

See Vesalius' Formulae at all seasons but more frequently in the winter and Spring and indeed of all ages susceptible to them. They are connected with most other febrile diseases, by chillsings, general uneasiness, intermission, loss of appetite, diarrhoea, &c &c &c

china

and this condition of the system may continue for
a longer or shorter time, until at last the eruptive
fever makes its appearance, and is accompanied
with heat, thirst, dryness of the mouth and fauces,
unconscious about the oesophagus, nausea and
vomiting, pains in different parts of the body, and
especially the head, back and parts, &c. With these
symptoms only, which are common to fevers generally
we could not say with certainty, that the measles
were about to appear, but were they accompanied
at the same time with swelling of the eyelids and
a copious excretion of acrid tears and also with an
acute discharge from the nose, and a hoarse
dry cough little doubt would be left that we
were about to encounter an attack of Measles.
These symptoms usually continue over the third
or fourth day, when the eruptive manifeſtation
in the form of red pustules about the size of a pea
make their appearance on the cuticle.

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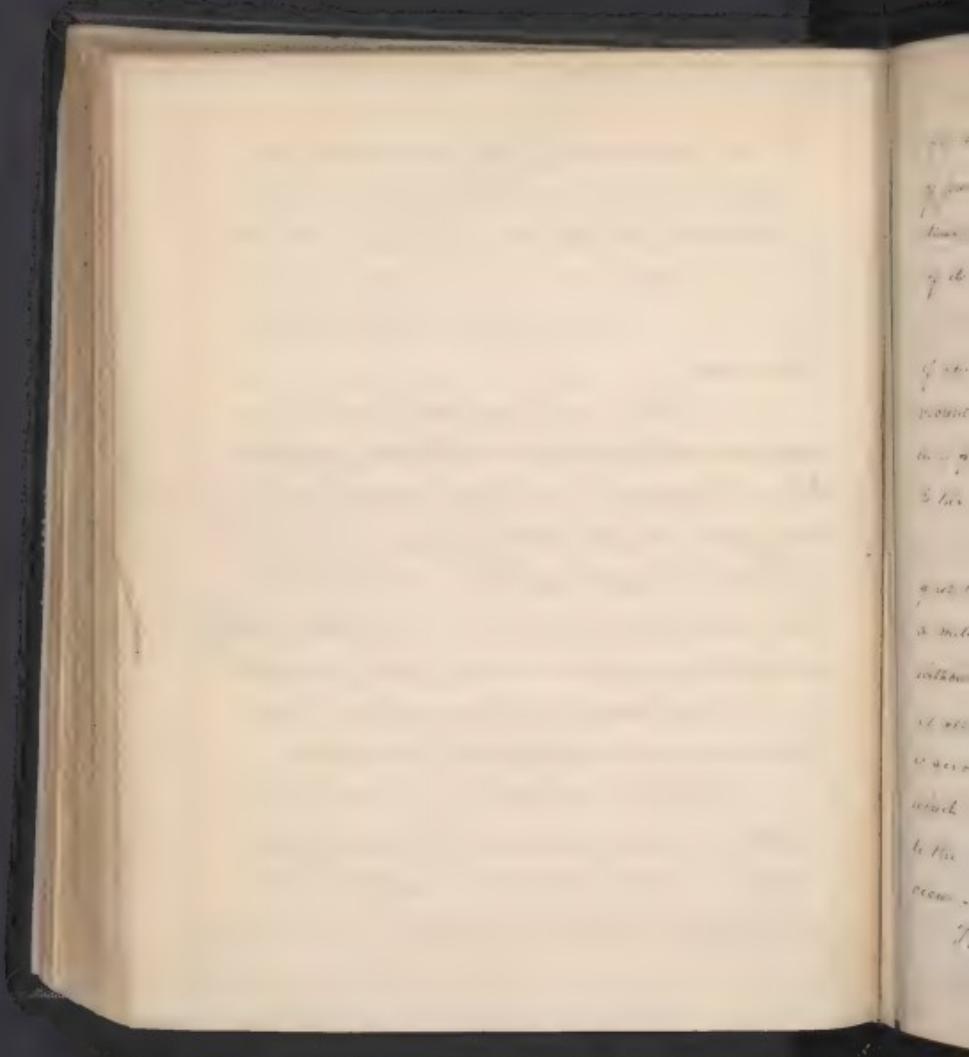
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The rash continues for a few days extending more or less over the body and about the termination of a week or ten days from the commencement of the attack it loses its florid appearance until the peals off, but the colour does not regain its natural colour for some days.

The cough and fever do not always disagree with the subsidence of the other symptoms but on the contrary remain often unabated and not unfrequently from the most serious part of the disease especially in expectorant patients in whom the disease often proves highly dangerous and even fatal - when it is sometimes successful in removing them by a critical sweat or diuresis; but failing so to do the most prompt and energetic treatment is demanded.

The more external form of the disease might lead an inexperienced person to suppose that there is great swelling and singularity in the pathology of this disease but this is not the case:



to the condition of the human circulation and that
of particular parts, may be variously affected and
these various affections of the circulation constitutions
of its most striking peculiarities.

The disease has indeed a considerable range
of character - in one case it will be mild - in another
violent - in a third hold an intermediate course - and
in a fourth assume all the varieties from the mildest
to the most severe.

The cause of this diversity of types we
first that the disease is sometimes unaccompanied with
a mild excitement which commences and terminates
without producing any violent derangement. Secondly
at other times, in its onset, advancement, or decline, it
is accompanied with some congestion or inflammation
which may terminate favourably or otherwise, according
to the degree, time, or peculiar nature which it may
occur.

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has its origin in gastric irritation, which plainly accounts for those distressing symptoms, which attend the commencement of the disease; such as, anorexia, nausea, fulness and tension about the epigastrium, and constipation. These signs occur themselves when the irritation is confined to the mucous lining of the stomach.

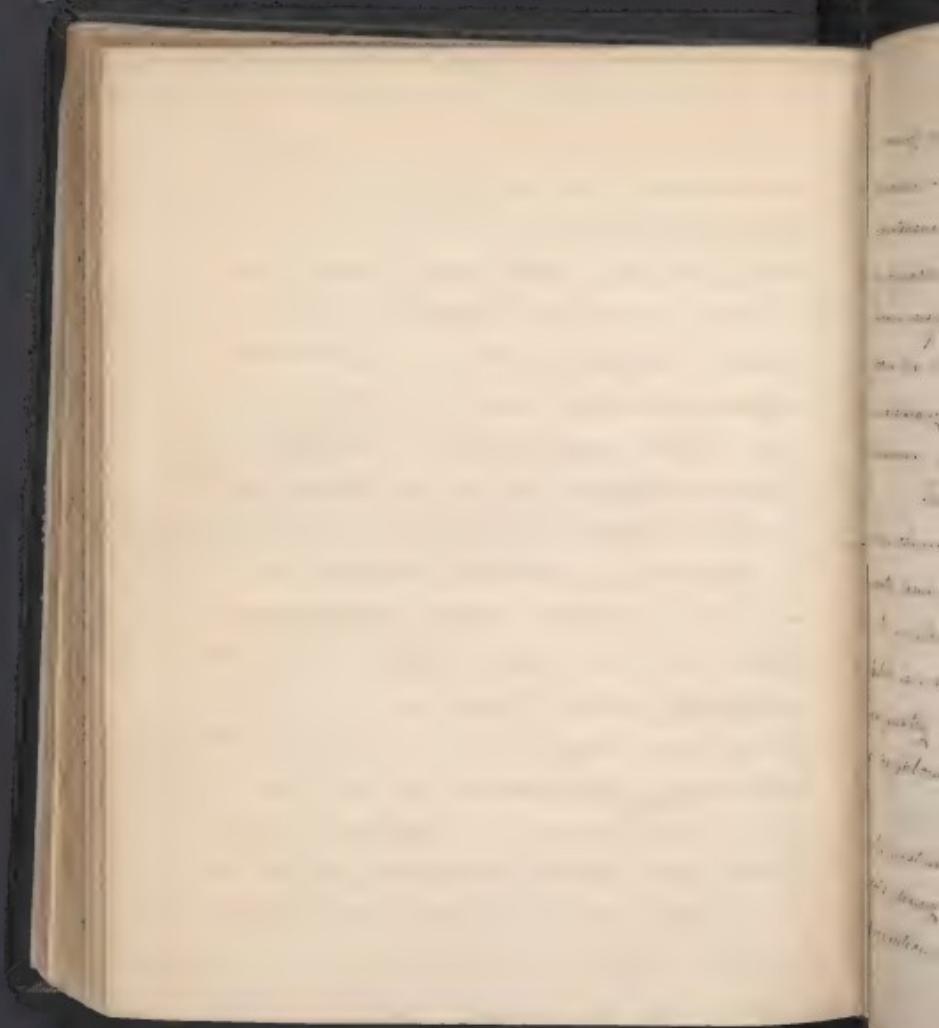
But the connexion from the internal organs by which exists between the heart and the stomach, transmitting the excited action by metastasis of the irritation from the internal to the external surface, which metastasis being complete the foregoing symptoms will be manifest entirely in the condition of the skin.

But it now and then happens that the metastasis is incomplete the irritation passing to the heart between the stomach and skin which being the case the former organ will continue to be excited in a greater or less degree, and the excretion will be impeded.

This is one of the manifestations of the



disease or which typical symptoms may appear
if the stomach is not soon relieved. the irritability
of this organ will be aggravated, the pains become
more quick and irregular, occasioning thirst, delirium,
and even stupor, and in fine all the distressing
symptoms which constitute a mortifying disease -
again the stomach may be completely relieved of
every tormenting symptom by the complete establishment
of the eruption; yet if it should by any means be
brought to die again as in cold. the irritation may
be translated again to the stomach, and a
recurrence of all those alarming symptoms peculiar
to this organ when irritated or inflamed will again
distress the patient. again the violence of the
remote cause may be such as to overtax the
vital energy of the system so that reaction will
give to tan, black and a collapse of the
system will supervene, accompanied with all the
other phenomena such as cold surface, habitual

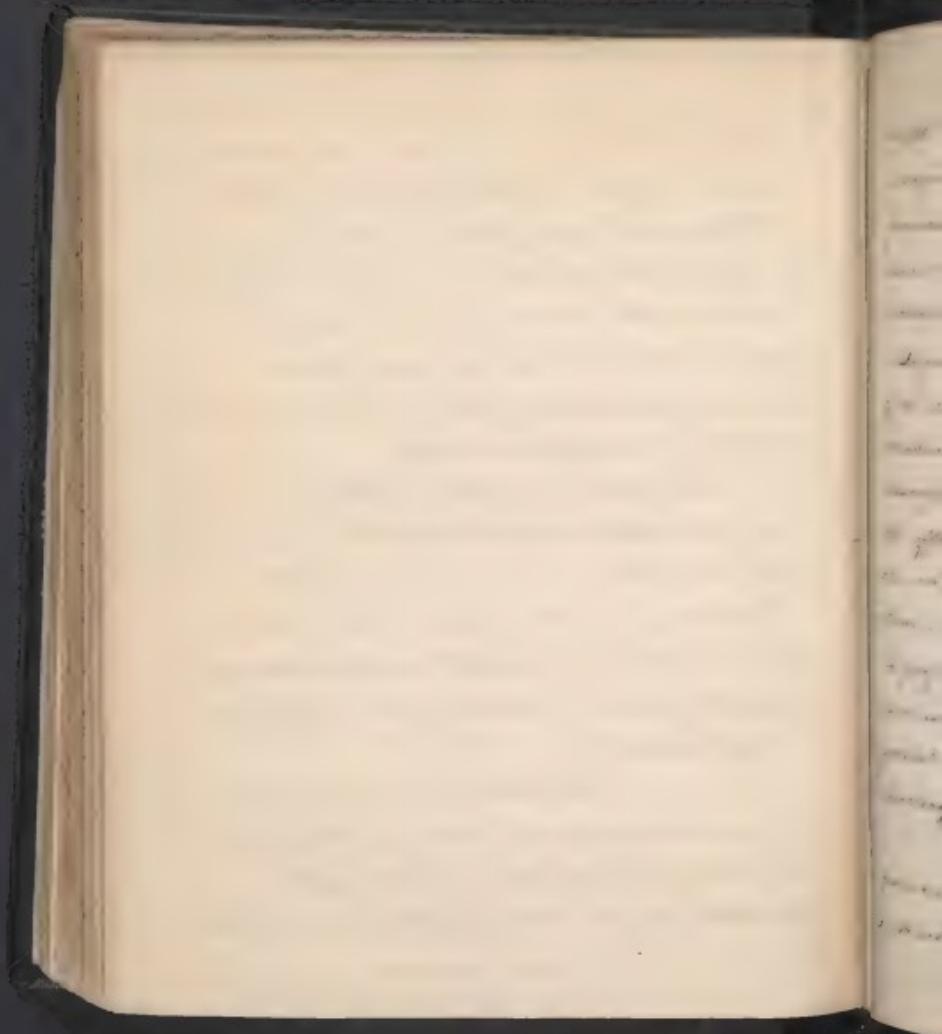


extreme weakness, much pain and gathering uneasiness,
delirium, excessive irritability of Stomach, collapse
countenance &c. And if these are not soon overcome
by appropriate remedies we will find the pulse
become irregular; vomiting of a foul dark matter
from the stomach resembling coffee grounds.
inconstant discharge of urine and ~~leucorrhœa~~
~~leucorrhœa~~, convulsions and death.

The disease is commonly mildest in summer
when the weather is moderate; and most severe in
winter and spring when it is cold and variable.

It is also so much influenced by the peculiar
habit in which it occurs, that all its varieties may
generally be seen in persons of the same family
or neighbourhood.

It would be well in conformato-
able weather, to guard even strong children against
cold during the prevalence of measles; as these
precautions together with a light and simple diet



might do much to prevent serious attacks. The danger will always be greater in those persons, who, previous to an attack, labour under some internal disease or predisposition to it, and especially if that predisposition or disease be seated in the Pulmonary, & digestive organs; for in such cases, the weight of the disease will in all probability fall upon the weakened part. On this account friends of this description ought if possible to leave the vicinity of the affected atmosphere, that they may escape the chance of infection, until a more favourable time. If this cannot be done, the system should be prepared for the probable reception of the disease, and as soon as its effects begin to be developed, the greatest care should be taken to ward off any threatening of mischief in a vital organ.

When children have suffered from some previous disease, the tone of the system is sometimes so much impaired, that it would be improper to

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venture upon any very active measures when they
are attacked with Measles. Under such circumstances
it would be better, by diligent attention, to detect the
first symptoms and endeavour to counteract their
tendency by a purgation, typical bleeding by cups
and leeches and a blister over the affected part.
Should the heat of the body be irregular, the warm
bath will be highly useful in diffusing a more
equable circulation and temperature - if these
measures be not carried too far they will be well
borne, and may prevent the threatened origin from
a serious attack: whereas more active ones might
be very injurious by depressing the general powers,
prohibiting the development of an equal excitement and
inducing extreme irritability of the nervous system.
But in vigorous constitutions where there is rather
over-excitement than insufficiency, bolder measures
may be taken when any of the viscera even suffer
from congestion - These exertions will be mighty

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wateful by which means such congestion will be more speedily overcome than by any other - But this is not to be solely relied on: it should be sometimes assisted by the warm bath and followed by active purging blisters, and tepid baths to determine to the surface.

The same disease is not always accompanied with the same concourse of symptoms, and indeed they may be so modified by contingent circumstances as to indicate almost opposite modes of treatment. And that practitioner will be most uniformly successful who, guided by a sound judgment prescribes appropriate remedies, not for the name, but for the more prominent symptoms of a disease as they arise.

We occasionally see persons among the lower ranks of society left to the natural course of the disease without the assistance of art, in whom it appears to terminate without any very violent signs of inflammation or of the external organs having been injured. But although this may be the happy termination of most

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cases yet, we are not to infer that such will always
be the case; or that inflammation may not supervene and
dangerously complicate the case. Moreover it would
be wise even in these mild forms of the disease to
adopt the present plan, for though the excitement
at first be apparently slight, yet, it might gradually
gain ground, and materially derange the function, and
perhaps the organization of some important organ and
that organ will be most likely to suffer, which is in
the highest state of predisposition. If this part should
be the succumbing of the Boerhaave, we will have
symptoms of & attack - of the mucous coat of the stomach
protruding, of the bowel distended, of the spleen
swelling and in like manner throughout the different
tissues - The brain may also share its part in these afflictions

If our vomiting is violent continuing after the
coming out of the eruption even abdominal irritation
or inflammation may be suspected and a diarrhoea
a occasional gripping pains occurring at this period or

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further proofs that irritation or inflammation do, exist.
But the surest signs of such affections, are pain, swelling or pressure, flatulency of the stomach and bowels, and unnatural appearance of the stools. And if pain or swelling exist in the right or left Hypochondriac, we may infer that the Liver or Spleen is affected.

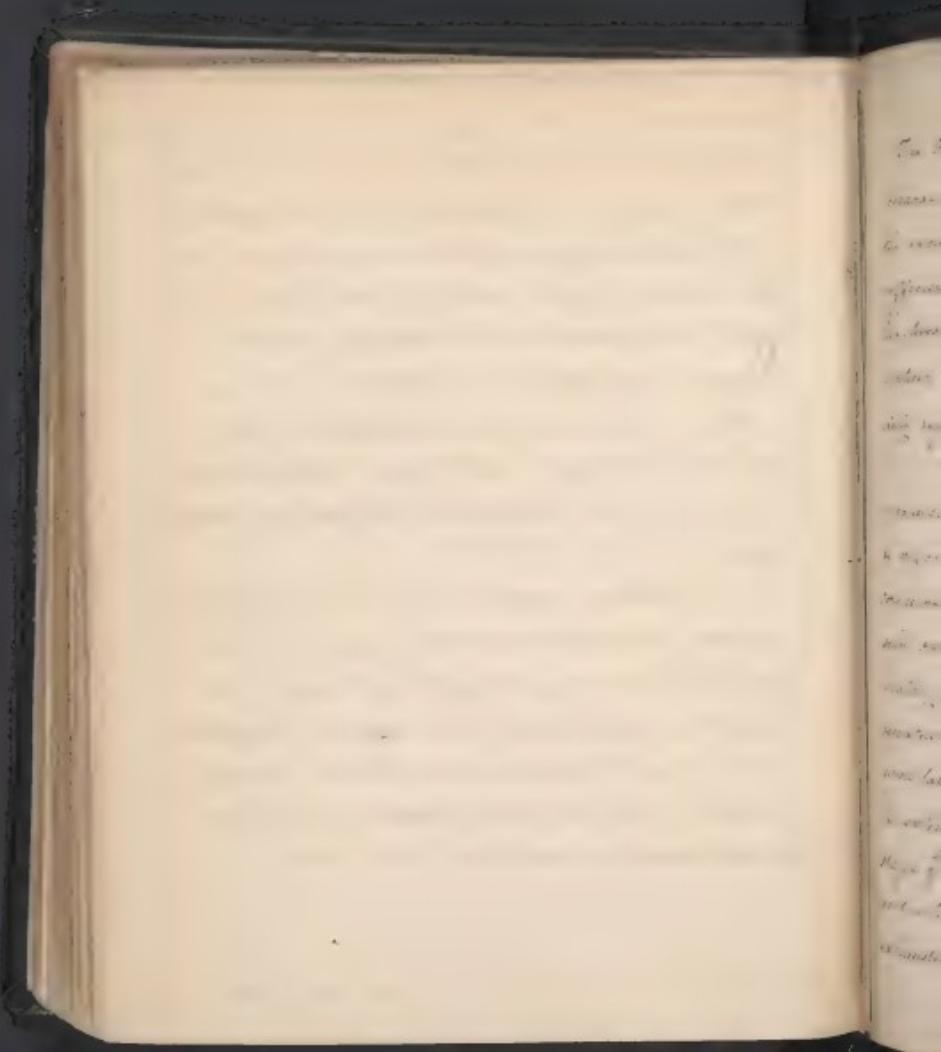
There are often clear marks of cerebral fulness before the appearance of the congestion, but these usually disappear as it takes place, so that inflammation of the brain rarely supervenes, until the congestion suddenly strikes in as it is commonly called. If it should disappear before the usual time, and great anxiety, delirium and some a convulsive issue, the indication will be to restrain the congestion till such a period as possible. For which purpose in warm days, hot fomentations, blisters, wine and water, carbonate of antimony, ether, and Antidandrinals would be proper.

There can be little doubt that more or less congestion attends the first disease stage of all febrile diseases, and that

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and
secretion
of the
glucose
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the subsequent reaction of the body and nature is the natural cure of such congestion. Now if the effects of nature could always be depended on for bringing about this reaction and if it was always suited to the removal of the previous congestion, there would be no use for the interference of art. But this is not the case, the excitement is often so excessive as to require the interference of art to moderate it; otherwise it would pass the voluntary limits and produce organic derangements of the previously congested organs.

It however occasionally happens that the effects of nature are too feeble to create the stage of reaction from the great degree of congestion occasioned by the congestion origin exciting the recuperative powers that reaction cannot be initiated, and without the assistance of art the patient must soon sink under the most dangerous modification of the disease.



The treatment of such a case will depend on the
character of & especially if the case be simple, and
the excitement moderate the mildest treatment will be
sufficient. barely keeping the larynx open with mild
laxatives, with warm beverages, to rest on the skin, the
patient being confined to bed and the temperature of the
body regulated.

But should the fever prove violent
producing pain in muscular parts, or treatment should
be vigorous in proportion to the exhalation of vapors
concerned, and above all other remedies we should
resort to Bleeding. In the commencement of all inflam-
matory diseases it is a measure that will hardly ever be
reversed - But when general Bleeding is resorted
upon late whatever cause of recovery remained may
be extinguished by such a measure, for in the last
stage of inflammatory diseases the energy of the heart
and arteries and that of the entire system is so much
exhausted by the former excitement that general

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Bleeding at that time, would have little or no influence on the local disease but might invariably, and mortally毒ous the system. If resection is indicated and the patient is more than four years old, bleeding should be carried as far as to make a decided impression on the local affection. One large and extensive bleeding will do more good than half a dozen smaller ones which would in the end only exhaust the system without checking, the disease. But it is a very nice point to bleed children judiciously what they are attached with cerebral inflammation. In the young constitution there is a more intimate sympathetic connexion between the vascular and nervous systems than is observed in the more matured; so that a much greater degree of irritation is produced by exciting circulation on the periphery than in the centre. In several of our infants' malignant diseases however, bleeding is a very safe operation. It may even be of service in the affection of yellow



distinction between a stable and a loose state of society
depends on the form and on the nature.

Now the society in which the labour is transacted
merely is sustained rather than caused to labour by
means of a common condition of labour and interest
is held in remembrance mainly among the old, because
it is most common in old countries, and it is
now very rare; but in new countries it is
still more common by the greater number of them, and
transient consideration can easily make it last longer.
The greatest part of such great wealth now in the world
is due to transient causes of multiplying means of labour,
by multiplying its own population, or multiplying
the labour of others.

In these cases we are under legal and religious
restrictions, but these we must too easily to shun.
It is most reasonable to have no other distinction
between us than the labour at we require.



and seems to become fissile by exposure to various kinds
of acid, having the time when you can use it at all after
heat some and remove a portion from it for the next part.
Therefore - I - am - not - yet - saying - when - we
would - be - able - to - use - it - now - but - would - be
mischievous if the stomach is ever a - species of bone
we - returning - to - stone - not - as - a - stone - The
reaction - is - said - to - be - with - transition - and - there - is
extreme precipitate - when - when - the - conversion - of
the - new - would - not - return - our - older - The Physician
who - will - see - you - of - my - first - class - and - not - practice
his - writing - in - his - own - handwriting - and - about - a - day -
or - two - or - three - it - will - be - over - and -
the - life - of - the - system - of - your - body - becomes -
imitable - to - a - stone - or - even - stone - with - very
little - loss - of - weight -

The sequelae of the disease are many and various, almost as the affection incident to the different forms of the following it is to be treated as original coincident.

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and when we went to town to
see the new house we had just
bought. It was a very nice
house, but it was very old and
had many rooms. We had to go
up some stairs to get to the bedrooms.
The house was very old and
had many rooms. We had to go
up some stairs to get to the bedrooms.
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up some stairs to get to the bedrooms.

During convalescence from the Measles patients should not be suffered to expose themselves to a cold and damp atmosphere particularly such as are predisposed to pleural complaints. For though they be apparently fast recovering if they immediately expose themselves either to some other serious affection may supervene and prove dangerous or destructive. A light and cooling diet should also be preserved in for some time; if of a full and stimulating one be allowed it will be almost sure to derange the digestive organs. If these precautions were strictly observed much subsequent mischief might be prevented and the system restored to its pristine health and vigour. Moderate exercise in pleasant weather might also be indulged in either in a carriage or on horseback the latter though I think is to be preferred. Fatigue should never be induced.

Treat measles as we may they will sometimes prove fatal a spite of all exertions, either

and hardly worth the very enormous cost.
The new tree is a slender one, and not yet well
developed, nor has it any fruiting branches. Many
old trees of the species are however found
in old woods, many of which still have
many fine young fruit bearing twigs, even when
the tree has lost its terminal or main
stem, and is now a mere cluster of
branches without the normal form.
Many smaller plants are scattered each
among the tree trunks. In these plants
one sees little evidence of a definite
order, although apparently a few are clearly
marked out by a slight increase in size or thickness of
midrib, and so on. Most of them seem to
consist of mere blades.

These find their place around both

the surface, many being entirely upon without

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in its acute stage, or by its sequela, such as
Plethora Pulmonalis chronic. Strangury of any of the
internal cavities, as Ascites. Hydrocephalus. Hydrocoele
etc etc &c or by chronic inflammation of some
of the viscera, which terminates in disorganization which
no skill in our art can repair.